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1860.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

FEB 1 1901

DELIVERED AT THE

EXHIBITION OF THE ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL,

JULY 16, 1860,

IN BEHALF OF THE GRADUATING CLASS,

BY

THOMAS W. HAYDEN.

PUBLISHED BY REQUEST.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

LETTER OF REQUEST.

English High School, July 7, 1860.

Thos. W. Hayden:

Sir,—The undersigned, your associates in the "class of '60," hearing with pleasure that you have consented to speak in their name at the coming Exhibition of the English High School, and wishing to preserve some memorial of the occasion, respectfully request that you will allow them a copy of your Valedictory for publication.

Wm. A. Hovey,	Charles H. Foster,
Walter G. MacRae,	W. C. Cooledge,
Charles J. Miller,	S. S. Everett,
Henry B. Rice,	W. H. Nichols,
C. W. Shelton,	Chas. E. Ridler,
E. F. Wilder,	Edwin A. Palmer, Jr.
A. W. Worthley,	Fred. C. Sweetser,
C. H. Demeritt,	A. A. Hamilton,
D. A. Hall,	J. A. Jefferds,
Arthur Drew,	L. H. Felt,
W. B. Joslin,	J. Ashton Preston,
Wm. S. Crosby,	James F. Babcock,
Wm. H. Dale,	Geo. W. Abbott,

Edward H. Clark.

REPLY.

ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL, July 7, 1860.

CLASSMATES OF 1860:

I HAVE this moment received your very kind letter, requesting a copy of my valedictory remarks for publication. Running my eye over the list of signatures to that letter, I cannot but think that you erred in your selection of "one to speak for you at the coming Exhibition." Not being now at liberty, however, to decline the distinction which has been conferred upon me, allow me to say, that I receive your note and accede to your request with feelings of gratitude at this last mark of kindness from friends whom I highly esteem, and with whom I have been long and intimately connected.

Accept, gentlemen, my poor but hearty thanks for the unsought and undeserved honors which I have received at your hands.

With sincere wishes for your future health, happiness and prosperity,

I remain,

Your obliged classmate,

THOS. W. HAYDEN.

To WM. A. HOVEY, W. G. MACRAE, and others of the "class of '60."

ADDRESS.

Ladies and Gentlemen,
and Fellow-Members of the English High School:

THERE is probably no period in one's life in which he is placed in a position so peculiar and trying, as when, for the last time, he bids adieu to his classmates, his teachers, and his *Alma Mater*, to engage in another and a sterner contest, compared with which the one he has already passed through is easy indeed. Students are usually impatient to throw off the restraints of the school and the college; but it is hard to reconcile one's self to the inevitable separation, when the time for it has arrived, although it may have been anticipated with a feeling of pleasure. At this hour, we cannot but regret that separation. On the other hand, I suppose that

many of the graduating class long for the change which is to take place. Our situation is something like that of the lad who was told by his governor, that if he went out into the yard, he would wish that he had stayed in the house; to which he replied, "Yes, and if I stay in the house, I shall wish I was out in the yard,—so where is the great difference?" *Now* it is that we feel how short a time we have spent here, how rapidly that time has flown, and how many more years might still be profitably spent within these friendly walls. *Now* it is that we deeply regret the necessity of separating ourselves from classmates and teachers, with whom we have been so long associated. *Now* it is that we regret, for our own sakes, that "the places which now know us will soon know us no more."

Concerning my classmates of 1860, in whose behalf I speak, I must be allowed to say, that the reputation of the school has never suffered at their hands, but has been sustained, I sincerely believe, in a manner which redounds to their honor, as well as to that of the institution.

I venture to assert, too, that the friendly intercourse which has subsisted, and the friendship which still subsists, between the teachers of the English High School, to whose faithfulness, patience, and ability, we can bear witness, and

the members—individually and collectively—of the class of 1860, will ever be held by the latter in grateful recollection.

To the class which is to succeed us in these places, the only charge we give is, that while they occupy these seats, they shall see that the English High School receives no detriment.

We thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for your attendance this day, and for the attention which you have paid, and the indulgence which you have been pleased to extend, to the exercises which are now nearly concluded.

Though we separate to-day, "auld acquaintance" will not be forgot:

> "We 'll take a cup of kindness yet,
> For auld lang syne."

But wherever we go,—whatever part we may play in life's drama,—whether we resume our studies elsewhere or here—whether science engages our attention—whether we enter a field of labor in which, it is said, one must "live like a hermit and work like a horse," or adopt a vocation adorned by a BROOKS and a LAWRENCE, and in which, no less than in any other, one must

> "Scorn delights, and live laborious days,"

be assured that our thoughts will always turn with instinctive fondness to our *Alma Mater*, the English High School of the good old city of Boston. The days that we have spent in this school, working together,—

"Those pleasant days,—are past;
More change and time and space may intervene—
But no change save the last
Will ever dim the brightness of that scene."

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